

just south of Cedar Run, with two brigades. Gen. Warren turned his whole force on him and played on him with artillery that was posted on the north side of the run. Hill's brigades were repulsed with terrible loss. The effort to cut the enemy in his retreat had failed.

We then fell back to the north side of the Rappahanock, tearing up the railroad from Cub's Run all the way back to Rappahanock Station.

As every thing grew quiet we were directed to prepare winter quarters, and did so with a hearty good-will. By the 7th of November we were tolerably well prepared for winter. But in the middle of the afternoon on that day the "long-roll" was beat and we were marched about 7 miles, double-quick for a great part of the way, to Rappahanock Station.

West of the Rail Road Bridge the river bends to the south, and a pontoon bridge was kept across the river. On the north side of the river there was a line of trenches, and we were hurried over into them. There were three or four pieces of artillery on a bluff near the river, just opposite the pontoon bridge to our right. There Hays' Louisiana brigade was posted. The enemy's lines soon appeared in our front. Owing to some unusual state of the atmosphere, or currents of the air, we could see them firing at us but could not hear the report of their guns until they were very close up to us. They seemed to know the ground, and their heaviest attack was on our right nearest the pontoon bridge. The conformation of the ground was such that we could not direct our fire so as to bear upon the heavy lines that were thrown against Hays, and he, after a gallant resistance, was overcome, and the enemy had the battery and were in full view of the pontoon-bridge, which was then within musket range from them, and they had an enfilading fire on our part of the line, which was also receiving a fire from the enemy in our front. Our men were ordered out of the trenches to form a line, to try and retake the battery, but with the enemy advancing in our front and the severe fire from the hill on which the battery was situated, it was impossible to do it. No supporting troops were coming from

the south side of the river. Hays' men were retreating, and the enemy were pouring a deadly fire into the stream of men who were rushing across the pontoon-bridge to the south side of the river. Our regiment and those to our left were cut off and the river was too deep to be forded. The only chance of escape was to run the gauntlet or swim the river. It was getting dark. Some ran the gauntlet across the bridge; some swam the river. The writer was one of a considerable number who rushed across the bridge and reached the south bank safely, whilst many who attempted it fell pierced with balls and tumbled headlong into the river. A large portion of the brigade was captured. The enemy were so intent on crowding our men back into the horse-shoe bend of the river, that a considerable number, after formally throwing down their guns and being ordered to the rear, in going back, found that the bridge was not guarded and so slipped across to the south side. This fight, though of short duration, was a severe one and against great odds. We had no support or reinforcements.

The wisdom of the generalship by which our two brigades were placed on the north bank of a deep river to meet the advance of a great army is not apparent.

Those of us who escaped capture reformed our companies, and by the addition of some recruits the regiment was intact again.

But we were not permitted to go into winter quarters any more. We were kept moving, watching the enemy. They were somewhat emboldened and attempted what was known to our men as "The Mine-Run Campaign." It was about the last of November, and the weather was bitterly cold. Although we were under a considerable artillery fire and did some heavy skirmishing between the lines of battle formed by the two armies, yet there was no general engagement, and the enemy gave up the movement, and on December 2nd withdrew their forces to the north side of the Rapidan again.

The campaigns of 1863 were ended.